



Office of the



State Superintendent of Education

MEMORANDUM

TO: LEA Leaders and Special Education Coordinators

FROM: Tamara Reavis, Director of Assessment and Accountability,
Division of Elementary and Secondary Education

Chandra Williams, Director of Training and Technical Assistance,
Division of Specialized Education

DATE: March 23, 2012

RE: Clarification Regarding Use of DC CAS Translation Accommodation

This Memorandum is intended to address recent questions from the field regarding the use of the accommodation entitled “translation of words and phrases.”

Please note that translation is an accommodation whereby one language/form of communication is changed into another. Translation of words or phrases can be used only for the math, science, or composition portions of the assessment, and in a manner that does not change the construct (the academic content), being tested.

It is important to note that the use of translation in a way that fundamentally alter the construct (i.e. the knowledge, skill, or set of skills being measured) will be considered a non-standard assessment and will invalidate the resulting test scores.

Should you have any questions regarding the use of this accommodation, please contact Chandra Williams, Director of Training and Technical Assistance, at Chandra.williams@dc.gov